

Message Text

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S/S - WHLUERS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMCONSUL MADRAS

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 058906

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IN

SUBJECT: REPORTING FROM INDIA

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM UNDER SECRETARY SISCO

1. SOME MONTHS BACK ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO COMMENDED EMBASSY DELHI FOR A PATTERN OF EXCELLENCE IN ITS REPORTING. THAT PATTERN HAS BEEN MAINTAINED AND THE DEPARTMENT WANTS TO BE ON THE RECORD IN SAYING SO ESPECIALLY REGARDING THE RECENT SERIES OF REPORTS RELATING TO THE DIFFICULT ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL PROBLEMS NOW FACING INDIA.

2. ON POLITICAL SIDE, YOUR ASSESSMENT OF INDIAN FOREIGN POLICY (DELHI'S 3236) WAS OUTSTANDING ANALYTICAL MESSAGE AND A VERY USEFUL ONE IN APPRAISING INDIAN ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL ARENA IN DAYS AHEAD. YOUR CABLE PROJECTING SHORT AND LONG RANGE OUTLOOK FOR INDO-PAK RELATIONS EQUALLY WELL DONE. WE ALSO COMMEND EMBASSY AND CONGEN REPORTING OF RECENT PROVINCIAL ELECTIONS AND DISTURBANCES

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IN GUJARAT. THIS PROVIDED US WITH CONCISE AND TIMELY

ACCOUNT OF MAJOR SPOT DEVELOPMENT AS WELL AS CONGENT ANALYSIS OF POLICY IMPLICATIONS. THE ANNUAL STATE AIRGRAMS WILL ALSO BE A VALUABLE SOURCE OF INFORMATION FOR THE COMING YEAR.

3. ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL REPORTING HAS BEEN SUPERB. ALL IMPORTANT ASPECTS OF THE ENERGY CRISIS HAVE BEEN CLEARLY REPORTED ALONG WITH SIGNIFICANCE FOR US. WE WOULD CITE NEW DELHI'S 3077 ON THE INDO-IRANIAN AGREEMENT AND NEW DELHI 2943 WRAPPING UP THE SITUATION. THE RECENTLY BEGUN WEEKLY FOOD AND FERTILIZER REPORTS ARE MOST HELPFUL HERE.

4. IN SUM, DELHI'S REPORTING HAS BEEN THE KIND OF REPORTING THE SECRETARY HAS ASKED FOR FROM OUR MISSIONS ABROAD. KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK. KISSINGER

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